

Serial No. 10/039,486
Docket No. GSH 08-892801
Amendment B Under Rule 116

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for his attention to the application.

The application was originally filed with 16 claims. Amendment A was filed increasing the number of claims to 31. Claims 1, 5, 14-16, 24, and 30 have been cancelled. Claims 2-4, 6-8, 17-18, 20-21, 23, and 26 have been amended. Claims 32-36 have been added, and claim 25 has been re-written in independent form to include the limitations of claims 5 and 24. No new subject matter was added by way of this amendment. Claims 2-4, 6-8, 11, 17-23, 25-29, and 31 to 36 are supported in the specification as originally filed.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-8, 11, 14-24, and 26-30 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Stucka et al., US Patent #5,596,702. Applicants respectfully submit that the patent application is not anticipated by Stucka et al. for the reasons set out in the Remarks included with Amendment A filed November 1, 2004.

Notwithstanding, in the interest of advancing the prosecution of this patent application, Applicants voluntarily withdraw claims 1, 5, 14-16, 24, and 30. Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application for these claims at a later date.

New independent claim 32 requires "an association between components and users." Stucka et al. fails to teach this feature. Applicants trust that the Examiner is satisfied that adding this limitation cited in the examiner's statement of reasons for allowance overcomes Stucka et al.

The indicated allowability of claim 25 is noted, with thanks. Applicants have re-written claim 25 to include the limitations of former claims 5 and 24. Applicants trust that the Examiner will now find claim 25 allowable.

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Applicants have added claims 32 and 33. Claims 32 and 33 are system claims that correspond with claims 25 and 31, respectively. No new subject matter is added in claims 32 and 33. Applicants trust that the Examiner will find claims 32 and 33 allowable for the same reason as claims 25 and 31.

Applicants have amended claims 2-4, 17-18, and 20-21 to be dependent upon claim 32, claims 11, 27, and 28 to be dependent upon claim 8, and claim 19 to be dependent upon claim 8. Thus, Applicants submit that claims 2-4, 11, 17-22, and 27-29 are allowable for the same reason as claim 32.

Applicants have amended claims 6-8, 23, and 26 to be dependent upon claim 25, and thus Applicants submit that claims 6-8, 23 and 26 are allowable for the same reason as claim 25.

Applicants have added claims 34 to 36. These claims combine claims 14-16 with the limitations of either claim 25 or 32. Applicants submit that claims 34-36 are allowable for the same reason as claims 25 and 32.

The foregoing Amendment makes no claim changes as would require a further search by the Examiner. Thus, entry of the foregoing Amendment, and early and favorable action are respectfully requested.

In the event there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge them (or credit any overpayment) to our Deposit Account Number 08-1391.

Respectfully submitted,



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